

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 CANBER 00228 120639Z

11

ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-07 ISO-00 L-03 CIAE-00 INR-07

NSAE-00 DLOS-04 SAL-01 DODE-00 DOTE-00 FMC-01 OFA-01

/044 W

----- 055858

R 120552Z JAN 76

FM AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7248

INFO AMCONSUL SYDNEY

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY LONDON

USMISSION OECD PARIS

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE CANBERRA 0228

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EWWT, AS, US

SUBJECT: SHIPPING: AUSTRALIAN TANKER PREFERENCE POLICY

REFS: 75 CANBERRA 0360, 75 CANBERRA 2904

1. THERE IS GOOD POSSIBILITY THAT GOA POLICY TO REQUIRE 40 PERCENT OF CRUDE OIL IMPORTS BE SHIPPED IN AUSTRALIAN TANKERS IS AMONG FORMER LABOR GOVERNMENT POLICY MEASURES LIKELY TO BE SCRAPPED. ACCORDING TO ARTICLE IN AUSTRALIAN FINANCIAL REVIEW (AFR) JANUARY 12 THE TANKER PREFERENCE POLICY WILL BE RE-EXAMINED FROM THE POINT OF VIEW OF NEW GOVERNMENT'S COMMITMENT TO REDUCE EXPENDITURES AND UNNECESSARY COSTS. TANKER POLICY IS THEREFORE VULNERABLE AS IMPLEMENTATION OF 40 PERCENT RULE WOULD INVOLVE PURCHASE OF AT LEAST THREE TANKERS BY AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL LINE, INVOLVING CONSIDERABLE COST TO FEDERAL GOVERNMENT. 40-40-20 RULE ON OTHER CARGOES APPARENTLY ALSO TO BE REVIEWED ON SAME GROUNDS.

2. EMBASSY OFFICER CONTACTED ASSISTANT SECRETARY GRIGOR (EXPORTS TRANSPORTATION, SEA TRANSPORT POLICY DIVISION) IN DEPARTMENT
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 CANBER 00228 120639Z

OF TRANSPORT TO OBTAIN CONFIRMATION THIS REPORT. GRIGOR UNABLE

TO CONFIRM STATING THAT SO FAR AS HE KNEW TANKER POLICY HAD NOT YET BEEN CONSIDERED BY NEW GOVERNMENT. HE DID NOT DENY, HOWEVER, THAT AFR ARTICLE WAS BASED ON INTERVIEW WITH INCOMING MINISTER FOR TRANSPORT NIXON (OR POSSIBLY HIS PRESS SPOKESMAN), AS ARTICLE RATHER ELLIPTICALLY INFERRED IT WAS.

3. COMMENT: EMBASSY BELIEVES GRIGOR SIMPLY UNINFORMED OF HIS NEW MINISTER'S COMMENTS IN ADVANCE OF APPEARANCE OF ARTICLE AND THAT PREFERENCE POLICY INDEED LIKELY TO BE VERY CAREFULLY SCRUTINIZED. WE ARE MAKING OTHER INQUIRIES AND WILL REPORT PROMPTLY AS FURTHER INFORMATION IS DEVELOPED.
PERCIVAL

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PETROLEUM, SHIP REGISTRY, IMPORTS, POLICIES, CARGO SHIPS, NEWS MEDIA COMMENTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 12 JAN 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: morefirh
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976CANBER00228
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760010-0309
From: CANBERRA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760167/aaaachkr.tel
Line Count: 73
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EB
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 CANBERRA 360, 75 CANBERRA 2904
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: morefirh
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 19 APR 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <19 APR 2004 by SmithRJ>; APPROVED <20 APR 2004 by morefirh>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SHIPPING: AUSTRALIAN TANKER PREFERENCE POLICY
TAGS: EWWT, AS, US
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006